

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AGR-20 INT-08 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-10

RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

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DRAFTED BY EA/ ROC: MEMCDONNELL: BDS

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COMMERCE/ BIC - MR. DORNHEIM

----- 123950

R 052205 Z APR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

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E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, TW

SUBJECT: INCREASED ROC IMPORTS FROM US

SUMMARY: IN CALL ON DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY BARGER APRIL 4, MINISTER MARTIN WONG OF ROC EMBASSY SOUGHT US VIEWS OF Y. T. WONG PURCHASING MISSION. BARGER EXPRESSED ENCOURAGEMENT AT WAY AGRICULTURAL SALES APPEARED TO BE PROCEEDING BUT MENTIONED SOME DIFFICULTIES RESPECTING SALES OF MANUFACTURES AND SEMI- MANUFACTURES. BARGER SUGGESTED INFORMAL QUARTERLY DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN US AND ROC SIDES ABOUT PROGRESS AND PROBLEMS IN CLOSING TRADE GAP. WONG LIKED IDEA AND THOUGHT MEETINGS MIGHT ALSO EXPLORE CERTAIN ACTIONS WHICH USG, GRC AND US FIRMS COULD TAKE TO RAISE US SALES TO TAIWAN. END SUMMARY.

1. PRIOR TO RETURNING TO TAIPEI FOR CONSULTATIONS, MINISTER MARTIN WONG OF ROC EMBASSY MET APRIL 4 WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY BARGER TO SOLICIT US VIEWS
OF Y. T. WONG PURCHASING MISSION. BARGER MADE FOLLOWING
POINTS:

A. US GREATLY APPRECIATES ROC EFFORTS TO REDUCE
BILATERAL TRADE GAP. EARLY REPORTS FROM WEST COAST
INDICATE THAT AGRICULTURAL SEGMENT OF WONG MISSION IS
CREATING MUCH INTEREST AND THAT SALES ARE BEING MAOMY
IN THE UN SYSTEM OF ORGANIZATIONS IN GENERAL, THE US

GOVERNMENT HAS COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT THE CURRENT
SIZE OF THE COUNCIL CONTINUES TO BE ADEQUATE. THE USG
HAS ALSO CONCLUDED THAT THE MAKEUP OF THE COUNCIL CONTINUES
TO REFLECT EQUITABLE GEOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION.

2. FYI. ITU ADMIN COUNCIL CONSISTS OF 29 MEMBERS ELECTED
BY PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE FROM FIVE GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS
AS FOLLOWS: WESTERN HEMISPHERE - 6 SEATS; W. EUROPE -
6; E. EUROPE - 3; AFRICA - 7; AND ASIA 7. CURRENT SIZE
OF ADMIN COUNCIL SET IN 1965 WHEN MEMEBERSHIP WAS 129.
EXPECTED MEMBERSHIP AT TIME OF SEPTEMBER 1973 CONFERENCE
WILL BE 145 (ASSUMING ENTRY OF BANGLADESH AND EAST GERMANY,
BOTH OF WHOSE APPLICATIONS CURRENTLY UNDER CONSIDERATION.)
ALTHOUGH IN ABSOLUTE TERMS TOTAL NUMBER OF AFRICAN MEMBERS
HAS RISEN FROM 37 TO 42, MEMBERSHIP IN OTHER REGIONS HAS
INCREASED AS WELL - IN FACT MORE NEW STATES IN ASIAN REGION
HAVE ENTERED THAN AFRICAN - AND ACCORDINGLY AFRICAN PER-
CENTAGE OF TOTAL MEMBERSHIP HAS ACTUALLY DECLINED SLIGHTLY
FROM 28.7 TO 28.3, WHILE ASIAN PERCENTAGE HAS INCREASED
FROM 22.5 TO 25.5. THUS ALTHOUGH TOTAL MEMBERSHIP HAS
RISEN, PERCENTAGE OF COUNCIL SEATS HELD BY VARIOUS GEO-
GRAPHIC REGIONS IS BY AND LARGE SIMILAR TO SITUATION
EXISTING IN 1965, AND GIVEN GENERAL US POSITION OF TRYING
TO HOLD DOWN SIZE OF GOVERNING BODIES OF UN SYSTEM
ORGANIZATIONS IN INTERESTS EFFICIENT OPERATION AND ECONOMY,
WE WILL LIKELY OPPOSE AFRICAN AND MALGACHE PROPOSAL AT
CONFERENCE. END FYI. ROGERS

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